

...he took him to the end of the route and then dropped him at his house. The mother never call to apologize. Sometimes "I felt like Rodney Dangerfield," Powell continued. "I didn't get any respect!" Dale Bufler, Hopewell's third principal reminded the audience the 12th commandment in education: "Thou shalt have a Christmas program." He remembered one second grade production that resulted in a scuffle between two students on stage, much to the dismay of the teachers.

"I remember the dedication of staff here," Bufler said. "I don't know how you describe excellence in education. I can mention a name and you can see it in a classroom."

Former principal Tom Moffitt described the addition of special education units as a proud moment in his career as was the growth of Hopewell's student council.

It was rewarding to watch a dedicated staff start one of the functional writing programs in the area," Moffitt said. "We had the first Children's International Summer Village and had students from foreign countries. We learned the world isn't as large as we thought it was. Peer counseling was piloted at Hopewell," Moffitt continued. "My son is an 18-year-old student at Lakota now. He was one of the first to experience peer counseling."

Current PTA president Sandy Wheatley presented current principal Mark Westendorf with a plaque which will hang in the school commemorating the anniversary. Following the speakers, which included current superintendent Thomas Hayden, guests were invited to tour the building.



It was a proud day for Hopewell Elementary and its educators last week as they gathered to celebrate the facility's 25th year of existence. Bottom row, left-to-right are Roy Hance, former principal; D. Russel Lee, former Lakota and Butler County superintendent; Dale Bufler, former principal and Sandy Wheatley, present PTA president. Row two, Walter Powell, former principal; Dr. Thomas Hayden, current Lakota superintendent; Mark Westendorf, current Hopewell principal; Tom Moffitt, former principal and Harold Draut, former assistant principal and current guidance counselor. Photo by Mary Hitt

Skinner Landfill could be fined

For a second time in a year, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is considering levying a fine (this time \$25,000 daily) against operators of the Skinner's Landfill, West Chester.

Gene Wong, project manager, says materials are continuing to be dumped in an area which is under investigation. He says a previous fine proposal was dismissed when the Skinners agreed not to dump any more debris on the study site.

Elsa Skinner, who operates the landfill with her son Raymond, says EPA should have cordoned off the area earlier. "We are trying

to cooperate, but we are running a business, what do they expect?" EPA has made it as rough as they can. They've put wells all over the place.

"We can hardly move our equipment."

Wong charges that five to 30 feet of debris has been added since May, when the Skinners were warned against dumping on the investigation site.

The controversial landfill, on the Superfund National Priorities List, had been the subject of citizen complaints over the years.

It was called to the attention of the Ohio EPA in 1976 when the Union Twp. Fire

Department reported repeated complaints of black smoke and odors coming from the site.

OEPA conducted an investigation in 1976 but failed to prove any contamination of ground or surface water, or that an insufficient clay lining exists (to prevent seepage).

The 1976 investigators showed that volatile organics and pesticides had been stored in barrels on the grounds.

EPA representatives told an audience at a public hearing last year (at Union Elementary School) that the landfill had been placed on the 1982 Superfund list "because potential problems exist — not actual ones."

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